



THE LORD
COKE HIS
SPEECH AND
Charge.

With a Discoverie of the Abuses
and Corruption of Officers.



LONDON
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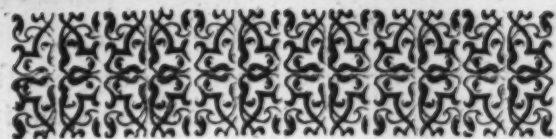
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TO THE RIGHT
Honourable the Earle of Exceter,
Knight of the most Honorable order of the
Garter: and one of the Lordes of his Ma-
jesties most Honorable priuie Counsel.

*R. P. wissheth all encrease of Honor
and endlesse happinesse.*



Ay it please your Hon.
The obseruation which
this world begets, may
teach experience truly
to report, that *Loue* and
Charity are for the most
part grovvne so cold, e-
uen in the hottest Sun-shine of our *Profession*,
as that despised *Pouertie*, though addicted
to the *Religious exercise* of endeuors comen-
dable, is in the best employment (which
seemes vvith greatest *Fauor* to smile vpon his
Hope) so coldly recompenced, as that *poore*
vnspitied deiected miserable Pouertie knowues
neither *Meanes* nor *Place* how or vvhere to
vvarme it selfe.

Vn-

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

Vnhappie I, in this best time of greatest happines, who being as I am a Poore despised, hated, scorned, and vnrespected *Souldier* so vnfortunate as no commended meanes, though many vsed, with confirmation both of *loue* and *Loyaltie*, can bee of power from dispayres *Gulfe*, to raise a *Spirit* drowned, in worst of misery: but were I not indeered vnto those by heauen made mine, who are indeed, to me, the life, more deare from whō there is no way to run, vnlesse in me, selfe being be disolued, I would assuredly by heauens assistance in some honest *War* vvith vs of *Armes*, giue to my life so long as I should liue, a liuing maintenance: but now *Immu- red* in my natiue home, vnseperably *Yoked* vvith leane-fact pouertie. I haue experience to conclude that as it is most certaine *Pax procreat Bellum*, so is it no lesse true, that a confirmed *Peace*, *Non amat Filios belli*, yntill she hath need of them.

In this estate not knowing how to mēd my selfe, *Religious* Lawe shall make my resolution honest, & though *Rerum conditionem mutare non possum*, yet I will haue power to say *Hoc possum magnum sumere animam et viro forti dignum*, with patience therefore shal

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shal my grieued thoughts ioyfully be thrown
vpō my makers providēce by whose assistance I will still resolute with a constant Bo-
stōe to persist in the prosecution of commended
deedes, for this I know *Spes mea, Christo
vivens, Est vivere vt semper vinam.*

And thus, my Honorable Lord, hauing
breathed forth a sigh vnto the grace of your
compassionate respect: I humbly craue your
Honor will vouchsafe, to patronize in this
little booke (by me collected) not my owne
but the words of that reuerend and learned
Judge, the Lord *Coke*, vwho at his coming to
Norwich, did at the *Assises* there vpon the
bench, deliuer a charge so exelent as that it
vvorthily deserues to bee continued in per-
petuall memorie, vvwhich being thus produ-
ced to a publique view, I hope it shal vnto
our *Publickeweale* remaine a vvorthy pre-
sident, vvherein *Romes* champions may vvith
shame decerne their long continued shame-
full practices, *Puritans* & *Sismatikes* learne
to knowe vvith vvhat *iniustice* they di-
sturb the happinesse of our most hap-
pie peace, our *Iustices*, inferior officers, *iurors*,
and Commons generally, may in this
booke find out commended *documents*, and
instructiōs profitable as vvell directing how

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

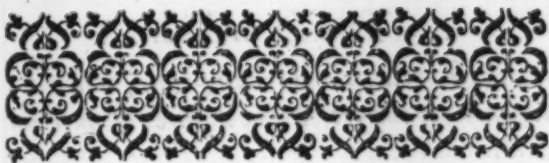
to govern as to be governed : all which particulars the learned *Iudge* hath wisely handled with such plausible *Oratorical* wisdomes eloquence, as that when I heard him speake, I thought the *Poet* had iust cause to say, *Prospera lux orritur linguisq; animisq; fauete: Nam dicenda bono sunt bona verba die.* If therefore in this following worke my Memory hath giuen a true instruction to my pen, I hope my labour shalbe accounted profitable, when it administers a publique benefit.

Thus Right Hon. *Earle*, what I haue herein performed, together with my most unworthy selfe, I humbly referre vnto your Honoured wisdomes consideration, remaining as I will alwayes rest,

Your Honours in all humblenesse

of Dutie.

R. P.



The Lord Coke,
the Preface to his Charge
giuen at the Assises holden
in Norwich, the fourth of
August. 1606.



*E*cause I perceiue the time
hath more swiftly passed then
I did expect: my strife and
labour with my selfe, hath bin
in my selfe to abreuiate what
I purpose to speak. And though
my speech shall principally bee directed to you of
the Iurie, which are sworne. yet for that I know
the scope and summe of my endeuours are solely
dedicated to Gods glory, and my countries pub-
licke benefit, I hope that all my words shall ex-
tend vnto the generall good of all these here pre-
senti vnto whom they are spoken. For I do pur-
pose in my course, as it were with a finger to point

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The Exordium.

out those growing and growing euils, which doe not only for the present time disturbe & hurt our Publique Weale, but doe also strue, and that with a most dangerous force, to deface, ruine, & utterly subuert the Honors of our auncient name, & our now great Brittaines Monarchie. But before the substance of my intended speech receiues his purposed beginning, I think it not amisse first to begin with my selfe, and of my selfe to speake thus much.

There was a certaine young Romane, whose youth so directed his labours, with industrious care to attaine to knowledge by the reading and studie of good letters, as that the Senat of Rome amongst theselues determined to make that yong mā a Iudge: therby with honored reputatiō to recompence the trauels of his youth, & to giue encouragement vnto other Romane Citizens by their good endeuors to attaine vnto like estate & credit in the gouernmēt of Romes Publique Weale.

It happened that shortly after the determination by the Consuls & Senat agreed vpon, the yong man vpon who the place of a Iudge should be conferred, coming vnto the knowledge thereof, fell perfectly into a deepe consideration with himselfe about the force & Office of that worthy place wherunto
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The Exordium.

he should be called. And first considered that in his owne opinioⁿ he was most vnfit: sufficiently to execute the substantiall and sometimes dangerous (though most comended duties) properly, belonging to so great a dignity. For this yong Roman hauing many Friends, Kinsfolkes, & Allies, some of the of such Rank & Place, in the authoritie of gouernment, as that their loue or hate could not aptly draw vnto it selfe a light or triuial respect (amongst who) this yong man thought that coming to be a Iudge; time might vnhappely produce soe such occasion wherein his sentēce, in the place of Iudgement, might giue distaste, procure enemies, loose Friends & gaine suspect of hatefull partialitie. From which corrupt & most impoysoned euill, thogh this yong Roman did neuer somuch desire, to stand cleared, yet Iudging amongst Friends, & Kinsfolks, he should assuredly (as he thought) by some detractors, be therof suspected.

The Romaine Cittizen hauing thus vnto himselfe presented diuers Obstricles and Objections, which could not in his owne sence receiue sufficient contradiction, he resolved by no meanes to take vpo him the place and person of a Iudge: but did vse all his Friendes and greatest power of meanes to perswade the Senate, to alter their determination concerning him, and to

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bestow so great an Office on some other, that might more worthily deserue the same.

Whilest this young man continued in a discontented passion, with purpose to desire some good aduice, hee goeth vnto a faithfull friend of his, whom he acquainted with what the Senate purposed, and how loath he was to vnder take so high an Office as to bee a Iudge. His friend vpon hearing the cause, presently concluded, that hee had great reason to shun the execution of such an Office, in the discharge whereof, so much danger rested. For (said he) *Cauē ne sis iudex inter Amicos* because *inter Amicos Iudicare*, Amōnst friends to iudge, is a thing nothing more dangerous. And therefore hee constantly aduised, that in any wise hee should refuse such honor, though offered vnto him: and rather be contented with a meane and priuat life, then in such a place imployed: in which hee should assuredly loose old friends, and get new enemies.

This yong man (though thus by his friend aduised, and in himselfe resolved neuer to take vpo him any such, as hee accounted dangerous dignitie) yet whē he vnderstood, that the Senat would not be altered in their purpose, but that by them the place was decreed vnto him, he then determined

The Exordium.

ned with himselfe, to trie the counsell of some other friend, whose Iudgement and Experience might beare some generall note, in directing the high affaires to the State belonging. And in this purpose he went vnto a certain Nobleman, whose prudent wisdom had oft bin vsed in businesse of most weighty consequence: vnto whom, when hee had laid open his mind, shewed his griefe, and signified the Senats pleasure. The noble gentleman with pleasant yet graue alacritie of spirit (seasoned with the soundnesse of a learned and vnderstanding wisdom) did most powerfully aduise, that this young man should cheerefully accept so worthy an Office, being so freely bestowed vpon him. And that he should by no means seeme to neglect the gracious clemencie of supreme authoritie: Nor in any sort account it dangerous amongst friends to iudge: for in the Office and execution of Iudgement, he that is a Iudge (*Declinet esse Amicus*) ceaseth to be a friend: for in the manner of iudgement, no acquaintance, no griefes, no friends, no remembrance of fore-past, present, or hope of future friendship must direct the thoughts of him that is a Iudge. All that on iudgements seat is done, must be, because Iustice commaunds the doing thereof, and that with no other

The Exordium.

other affection, but only because it is just. And therefore said this Noble Gentleman vnto his friend, arme thy selfe, in the constancie of a conscionable vprightnes, and be noe longer loath to execute the Honorable Office of a Iudge, but in thy loue to Romes Common-wealth, dedicate thy laboures to her publique benifit.

By the graue and sage aduice of that Honored Lord, this yong man was perswaded contrarie to his former purpose, with humble thankfulness to accept that Office, which the Senate without any meanes of his, was pleased freeilie to bestowe vpon him: and yet generallie made shew as if he ment the contrarie. and suddainlie preparing a sumptuous Feast, vnto which he enuited all his Friends, Kinsfolke, and familiar acquaintance, seeming that in regard he did rather choose to leaue his Countrie, then to take vpon him the Office of a Iudge: he had provided a Banquet or Feast, to Banquet with his Friends before his departure: and in some solempne maner would take leaue of them all. Who being, as they thought, to this end assembled: did sorrowfully expect the occasion of their grieffe, by the departure of their friend, which when the yong man perceiued, he spake thus vnto them.

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The Exordium.

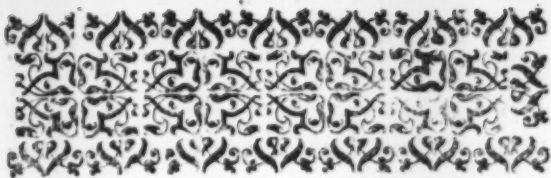
It is true that I purpose as I must, to take my leaue of you all, and to bee a stranger to my dearest friends, and nearest Allies: I must forget all former friendships, and my most familiar Acquaintance, I must accompt as greatest strangers vnto me; Thus must I depart from you, & yet continue amongst you; for by the lone, power & authoritie of the Senate, I am appointed to be a Iudge, and in the seate of Justice, I must forget the remembrance of your former friendships and acquaintance, and onely in the person of a Iudge, with respect to keepe my conscience cleare, I must with equitie & vprightnes; iustly administer iustice vnto you all. And this is my cause, by the loue & fauour of my greatest master King Iames, in whose royall and gracious disposition I am, (Sine precatìone, vel precatìo, without price or request, freely called vnto this great Office, by the fauour of my King) Vnto whose seruice, my life, and all I haue is humbly bound, by him, and by his gracious Clemencie, I am thus sent to bee a Iudge amongst my Kinssfolkes and familiar friends, euen in bosome of my natieue Country.

*I must therefore as the young Romaine did, take leaue of all former Acquaintance, & doe
that*

The Exordium.

that which is iust vnto all Estates and Degrees, without partialitie. Which dutie (by gods permission and assistance) I will faithfully performe, so long as God and my King shall please: that in this place I bee employed in the vprightnesse and equitie of Iudgement, shall all my performance entirely consist. The contrarie whereof shall (as I hope) neither be desired nor expected. And thus much for my selfe.

Here



Here followeth the words of
his Charge in oder.



S concerning the manner and Method of my charge, I will for order and memorie sake, extract or draw forth all that I purpose to speake, from five words in his Maiesties Commission contained: the words are these; *Quis*, *Quibus*, *Quid*, *Quomodo*, and *de Quibus*. *Quis*, from whome the Commission commeth; *Quibus*, to whom it is directed; *Quid*, what it concerneth; *Quomodo*, how it ought to be executed; and *de Quibus*, of whome, and of what causes, we are to enquire by vertue of the Commission vnto vs graunted: and this last, *De Quibus* is of all the rest the greatest.

As touching the first word, *Quis*, whom or from whom our Commission commeth, that is, from the Imperiall Maiestie of Greate Brittaines Monarchie, our dread Lord, and Soueraigne, King *James*, the lawfull Heyre vnto our Kingdomes Throne: whose Princely Scepter is his proper owne, by a most royall and lineall descent. It is his

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The L. Cokes charge,

Commission, by whose powerfull authority we are now and at all times commaunded to doe him seruice: for the awfull sway of his Soueraigne gouernment doth, ought, and must inioyne al his subiects to a due subiection and obedience; For he is ouer vs the Lords annointed, and in these his Realmes and Dominions, in all Causes, & ouer all Person, as well Ecclesiasticall as Ciuile, next vnder Christ Iesus our supream Gouvernour. Vnto his Highnesse then let our liues submission bend; let our faiths loyaltie dedicate it selfe vnto his vertues praise: & for the long continuance of his Maiesties most happie, powerfull, and victorious Rule, let all good subiects pray.

Now that I haue spoken from whom our Commission commeth, the next word which doth direct my worke is, *Quibus*, To whom it is directed, that is To vs his Maiesties *Iustices* of Assise, to whome by vertue of the *Kings* Commission is given such power, as that in the administration of Iustice wee doe represent the person of our *King*: So as if in the time of the Assises one shall strike another in the presēce of the Iudge, be it no more then a blow on the eare the Law provideth, That the offēdor shall loose his hand, wherewith he gaue the stroake, because the offence was done as in the presence of the Prince: For the Law hath so much care to protect the person of a Iudge: As that if a *Iustice* of Assise shall happen by any in his Circuit to be slaine, the Law adiudgeth it to bee *Lese Crimen Maiestatis* An offence done against the Maiestie of the King,
and

giuen at Norwich Assises.

and is punishable, as in cause of Treason.

To shew the worthinesse of our Place and Office, you shall vnderstand, that the *Kings* Maiestie at his Coronation is sworne to doe Iustice vnto all his Subiects, which in his owne Person it is impossible to performe. And therefore his Hignesse is cōstrayned by his *Ministers, Deputies, Iustices, and Iudges*, to administer Iustice vnto all his people. Men therefore (in such place employed) ought with wonderous care, & conscionable diligence to discharge the trust in them reposed: for vnto them, & into their hands, is (as it were) deliuered the *Kings* owne Oath; because, what he is sworne vnto, must be by them in his behalfe performed. See then the dignity of Iustices and Iudges of Assises, *Assignamus vos Iudiciarios nostros*. We haue assigned you our Iustices, and you may administer Iustice vnto our Subiects. Thus by the *Kings* Commission the *Kings* owne Oath is put into our hands: and at this instant (in the place and person of a Iudge) my Soueraignes Oath into my hands is put: I (though his vnworthie Subiect) am by his gracious clemencie Authorized (as in his owne person) according to his owne Oath, to administer Iustice vnto you his Subiects: Which duty (by Gods assistance) as I haue vowed, I will faithfully performe: For if any (with a *Kings* Oath trusted) shall be so vilde, as to falsifie their trust, such offence is more then Capitall.

The Place of a Iudge then, the greater that it is, so much the more should their care be, to discharge

The L. Cokes charge,

the same, vpon whom so weighty an office and Honorable Authoritie is bestowed.

From whom our *Commission* commeth, and to whom it is directed, hath bin briefly specified: I will now proceed, and shew out of this word *Quid*, what is in the *Commission* contained. Briefly therefore, it is that bounded limit, in which solely doth consist the strength of our authoritie; beyond which compasse we are commanded not to passe: For it appointeth vnto vs the *Iustices* of Assises, what it is that we must execute, as well in causes betwixt partie and pertie, as also the *King* and party depending. So as we are not onely to heare, iudge, and determine, such Causes of Controuerisie, as shall by Writ of *Nisi prius* be tried, but also to examine, acquit, or condemne all such Prisoners, as shall for any offence against his Maiestie be brought before vs, to receiue their Triall. So that by vertue of our *Commission* we haue authoritie, as in the person of our Soueraigne, to iudge in causes, that do concerne the life and death of the Subiect.

That our Commission then is very Large, Ample, and Absolute, containing in it selfe a powerfull Authoritie, may by your selues be iudged. And to the ende, that Iustice may by vs receiue the more full sound and perfect Execution, Our Commission, when it hath largely described vnto vs what wee may doe therein, it then most sweetely doth Appoint, Limit, and Commaund.

What manner of doing we must vse in those things

giuen at *Norwich Assises.*

things appointed to bee done, so that it doth not only giue vnto vs authoritie, what to execute but dooth also lay downe vnto vs the manner how our Authoritie must bee executed, and to the vnderstanding hereof, my next word *Quomodo* doth direct it selfe.

Wee then, the *Iustices* of Assises and Gaole Deliuerie, are by his Maiestie appointed to administer iustice vnto his Subiects; but *Quomodo* how, not according to our owne Will, Conceit or Opinion, but *Secundum Legem & Consuetudinem Mannerie Anglicana*, According to the Lawe: Custome and Manner of England: Which Lawe, Custome, and manner must bee executed with Knowledge, Iudgment, Vnderstanding, and Equitie. For wee must knowe our selues, and Place wherein wee are: Wee must Knowe and Vnderstand each cause before vs brought, and according to our Knowledge and Vnderstanding, we must vp-rightly Iudge, according to Equitie, without (in the least sort) being drawne, by respecting either Person or Profite, to beare a Partiall Hand in the Execution of Iudgement.

Partialitie in a Iudge, is a Turpitude, which doth soile and staine all the Actions done by him. A Iudge that will bee Partiall, will receiue a Bribe, and such an one cannot by any meanes bee iust, in his manner of Iudging: Bribes, and Partiall dealing doth defile the Puritie of Iustice, with great suspected Euill: For a Iudge, if but in some things he be knowne

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The L. Cokes charge,

to take a bribe, or be approued Partiall, he leaueth no one Action done by him, free from the suspect. A Iudge that for a Bribe will speake, and but once execute a Iustice purchased, all his words & Actions for euer after may iustly be suspected, though neuer so vprightly done or spoken.

A Iudge must vprightly, with an equall and indifferēt care and mind fully heare and vnderstand each cause before he iudgeth; otherwise, it is not possible that iustice should be iustly executed: And to iudge in a point of difference, hearing but one partie speake, is assuredly to be vniust; for this sentence is directly true: *Qui Iudicat causam parte inaudita altera, Equum licet, Statuat, Iudex iniquus est:* Who iudgeth a cause for the one partie, not hearing the other, though what he doth, may stand to be vpright, yet is the Iudge vniust.

Our auncient Fathers did in their Pictures and Emblemes oftentimes enclose a very great & substantiall wisdom: Iustice (as you know) vseth euer to be painted with a sword in the one hand, and a paire of Scales or Ballance in the other; thereby signifying, That Iustice neuer strikes her stroke, till first the cause be weighed in the Ballance; her Blow comes not, vntill the weight of the Cause to be tried, hath by an vpright hand equally receiued sufficient triall: for then she knoweth rightly how to strike her stroke, and not before: when the glory of her dignity shall receiue perfectious Honor, as well by protecting the Good, as in punishing the Bad.

Me

giuen at Norwich Assises.

Me thinkes, that oftentimes when I ride by the way, I see the Effects of *Iustice* rightly resembled, when I behold a Riuer with a siluer currant, bounded in her equall course, with what iust proportion she doth disperse her streames, without bewraying any little rage of intemperate violence. But if the passage of that streame be stoppt; then how like a raging Sea, she ouer-flowes her bancks: and that then by an vnresisted force, the Meadows, humble Vallies, weake and low growne Shrubs are drowned vp; enduring a recurelesse wracke, whilest Hills & Mountaines stand safe from feare of harme. Euen so it fareth with vs: The equall course of Iustice being stayed, the poore & meaner sort of people they are ouerwhelmed with wrongs oppression whilest great & wealthy men, like Hills and Mountaines, build their Stations sure, being freed from any cause of griefe: Iustice withheld, only the poorer sort are those that smart for it.

Iustice vnto all estates doth measure an euen proportion to rich and poore, her metwand keeps an equall length, being sealed with the testimonie of vpriight conscience. To Kings, Rulers, Iudges, and Magistrates, this sentence is proper *Vos Eij estis*; you are Gods on earth: when by your execution of Iustice & Iudgment, the God of heauen is by your actions presented: but if by vs, that so are called Gods Iustice and Iudgment be peruered; it wil bee heauy for our soules, when we shall dye like men.

Briefly, the office of a Iudge, is patiently to heare each party speake soberly; to answer or object, directly

The L. Cokes charge,

rectly; to see (as neere as may bee possible) each truth substantially prooued: And then to Iudge with an vpriight heart according to Iustice & Equitie: Neuer in any one thing preferring Conclufion, before a conscionable, wise, and iudiciall Consideration. In which vpriightnesse, the execution of Iustice vsed by the Right Honourable (my most worthy Predecessor) in this place shall be an Example, which I will desire to follow.

Of all the Morall vertues, Iustice (*Queene like*) is enthroned: for vnto her onely is a Throne ascribed, because her Execution doth neereft represent Heauens eternall Deitie. Iustice & Mercie are inseperable Vertues; Mercie and Iudgment, as it was Righteous King *Dauid's*, and lately our good *Queenes*, heauenly *Elizabeth*: so it is nowe vertuous King *James* his Song, in whose princely breast, Mercie and Iudgment are more gloriously vnited. And to the end, that I his Subiect, and in his place his Substitute, and you his Subiects may execute Iustice as wee ought, I will nowe out of my last word, *de Quibus*, declare vnto you, of whome, and of what Causes we are to enquire, that Iustice and Iudgment may thereby receiue a more cleare and powerfull Execution.

Those then of whome we are in the first place to enquire, are such, by whome our King is most disobeyed, his State disturbed, and Kingdomes threatened: Whereof (if you consider) it will be euident, That all those growing and desperate entremping euils, by which, wee are most proudly
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giuen at Norwich Assises.

menaced and Afflicted, doe principally proceede from three sorts of Recusants liuing amongst vs. Of all which, the *Popish* Recusant is the most dangerous with our *English Romanists*, will I therefore at the first begin, and in the description of their Actions and practises, I do desire that my wordes may bee entertayned with your best Attention.

Our Worldes Admired *Queene Renowned Elizabeth*, did (as you know) in the beginning of her Raigne; change the State of Religion in this Kingdome in her first Parliament, by the consent of her Lordes Spirituall and Temporall, being especially by the Lord of Heauen directed, *Error*, *Popish blindenesse*, and Faithlesse *Constitutions* grounded vpon Humaine *Traditions* were extinct. And Religions Puritie according to the Lawe of Faith, was Reestablished, beeing built vpon the vnremoued foundation, of the alone Authenticke word *Canonicall*. The bookes of the olde and newe Testament, from the trueth whereof, shee did alwaies direct the course of her so happie and Tryumphant Government.

Notwithstanding, the Change of Religion, it cannot bee denied. That for the first tenne yeeres, of her Maiesties Raigne, the estate of *Romaine Catholique* in *England* was Tollerable, though some were Committed in the beginning of her comming to the Crowne, yet none but those whose precedent Actions, had caused

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The L. Cokes charge,

the faith of their Allegiance to remaine doubtfull, and so was the manner of their commitment mixed with such gracious Clemencie. As that they rather endured a fauourable restraynt, then any straight or rigorous imprisonment, But as well thole so restrayned, as generally all the Papists in this Kingdome, not any of them did refuse to come to our Church, and yeeld their formall Obedience to the Lawes established. And thus they all Continued, not any one refusing to Come to our Churches, during the first tenne yeares of her Maiesties gouernment. And in the beginning of the eleuenth yeare of her Raigne, *Cornwallises*; *Beddingfeld* and *Silyarde* were the first Recusants. They absolutely refusing to come to our Churches. And vntill they in that sort began the name of *Recusant*, was neuer heard of amongst vs.

In the beginning of the eleuenth yeare, when three *Recusants* were onely in this Kingdome to bee found. In the same yeare, Pope *Impius*, though abusiuely surnamed *Pius Quintus*, his Hellishnesse was informed by some of our *English Iesuites*, that such was the number of *Romanne Catholiques* here in *England*, as that if his Horriblenesse would denounce an Excommunication against the *Queene* there was in this Realme and Kingdome, a power *Catholicall* which would presently vpon an instant be in redinesse, to enter into open hostilitie with force sufficient to depose, and vterly to supplant her

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her Highnesse; and to reestabliſh the *Romaine* faith.

Pope Impius of that name the firste, vpon the Information specified the better to seuer his hope in his good meaning to this Kingdome, presently plotteth with the *King of Spaine* for a suddaine inuasion vpon the present Excommunication of the *Queene*. And to this end one *Robert Rodulphy* a gentleman of *Florence*, was sent by the *Pope*, vnder colour of Marchandize, to sollicit a Rebellion amongst vs: and gaue order vnto him for the receiuing of one hundred and fiftie thousand Crownes, to set forward this attempt. And *Philip* King of *Spaine*, by the instance of the *Pope*, had determined to send the *Duke of Alua* into *England*, withall his forces in the Low Countries, to assist some great men amongst vs, who euer by the *Pope* Soilicited, to be the principall Agents in a most Rebellious enterprise, vnto whom some of the one hundred and fiftie Thousand Crownes was deliuered, and some other part sent into *Scotland* for the like effect.

Thus as you haue heard euen at the same time, when her Maiestie the late *Queene*, delt most mercifully with the *Papists*, did the *Pope* with them conspire to worke her ruine, and this Kingdomes Ouerthrow, secretly complaining how on suddaine they might bring vpon vs Destructions, Spoile, and generall Desolation, when our then *Soueraigne*, that *Queene of Vertue*, knowing she had deserued no such euill, did not in the least sort suspect any such danger.

The L.Cokes charge,

The Pope hauing as he thought suerly established the foundation of his hopes: He then Denounced the Excommunication against the *Queene* which was not vnto her self made known, vntil the intended Rebellion in the *North* brake forth a little before Christmas, in the yeare 1569, being the twelfth yeare of her Highnesse Raigne, and then it was known, that the *Pope* had Excommunicated her *Maiestie*. And therby freed her Subiects, as the Bull imported, from their Subiection and Obedience. But God was pleased that the *Popes Bull* was so Baited; as that the Rebellion by it procured, was sodainly suppressed: For the *Pope* whose labor is to defend Lies, was himselfe deceiued with a lie, for the strength of the *Papists* here not being such as was enformed, The true harted Protestants taking parte with their Soueraigne, did quickly Cut the Throats of our *English Romaines*, driuing some of the heads of that Rebellion, vnto a shamefull flight, and brought the rest by our Lawes *Iustice*, to a shamefull death.

Her Maiestie in the thirteenth yeere of her Raigne, hauing made the Law before specified, the very next yeere following, out commerh *Sanders booke. De Visibili Monarchya*, wherein he plainly setteth downe how the *Pope* had sent ouer *Morton* and *Web*, two Priests before the sayd Rebellion to the Lords and Gentlemen in the *North*, to Excite them, with their followers, to take vp Armes, signifying vnto them the *Popes* Commandement:

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dement: Alledging, That her Maiestie being excommunicated, Her Subiects were relefed from their Obedience. And therfore he doth Directly Iustifie the sayde *Commotion*. Ascribing the euill successe thereof to the late publishing of the sayde Excommunication. Because it was not generally knowne, vntill the yeere after it was Denounced. When *Felton* had set it vpon the *Bishop of Londons* gate. Affirming that if it had beene published the yeere before, or when the Rebels were in Armes, they had assuredly preuailed against the *Queene*, and executed the sayde Sentence at the same time, for her deposing from the Crowne.

Thus Trayterously with more then Brazen Insolence, did that Traytor *Sanders* spit out his poysoned venime. Thereby desiring to corrupt the hearts of her highnesse Subiects, and to make them fit for a newe Rebellion, which course by him taken, was Immitated by *Parsons*, and many other to the like effect. Who ceased not by their Hereticall and lying Pamphlits, with most Trayterous impudencie, to abuse her Maiestie and the *State*. And not thus contented, in the yeare one thousand five hundred seuentie and nine, *Stukely* assisted by *Sanders*, and other *Catholickes*, both *English*, *Irish*, and *Italian*, with the *Popes* Commission, entred into *Ireland*. The *Pope* himselfe, in the furtherance of that Course sending thither certaine forces vpon his owne Charge, Whilest all that time, her Maiestie that

The L. Cokes charge,

Queene of mercie was so farre from beeing moued, as that with Patience, shee endured all these Iniuries, onely inforcing that one Lawe, which as you haue heard, she most iustly made against them.

Whilest *Ireland* by the *Popes* procurement remained in combustion. It happened that *Pius Quintus* died, and *Gregorie* the thirteenth succeeded in his place, who presently Reneweth his Predecessors former *Bull*, and denounced her Maiestie to bee Excommunicated, with *Intimation* of all other particulers in the former *Bull* mentioned, which done, there was by him sent ouer into *England*. *Campion* and *Parsons*, they came vnto vs in the yeare one thousand fīue hundreth and eightie, there coming was to alienate the hearts of her Maiesties Subiects, from their due obedience: and to make a partie strong to depose the *Queene*, ioyning with the *Pope*, and *King* of *Spaine*, by whom there was then an intended preparation against vs. But the attempts and practises of them both at that instant failing in *England*. The *Pope* as a *Temporall* Prince, displayeth his Banner in *Ireland*, with purpose to deprīue her *Hihnesse*. First from that Kingdome, and then by degrees to depose her from this. Notwithstanding so mild was the proceedings of her Maiestie against them, as that there were in the space of ten yeares, not much aboue twelue persons, that

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that were by the Iustice of her Lawes adiudged to die, and the most of them *Semenaries*, and all of them Conuicted in causes of Treason.

Her Maiestie when she heard of the second Excommunication, and had seene what followed in her Kingdome vpon the first. She was then in all Christian Pollecie enioyned to prevent the successe of dangers imminent. Her Highnesse therefore, in the yeare one thousand five hundred eightie and one, caused a Proclamation to bee made for the calling home of her Subiects from beyond the Seas, such especially as were Trayned vp in the *Seminaries*, perceiuing that they learned nothing there but disloyaltie, & Treason. And presently after this her Proclamation, she called a Parliament, wherein a Lawe was agreeable in effect to the said Proclamation, enforced with a penalty of death, for any *Iesuite* or *Seminarie* Priest, to repaire into *England*, and for any to receiue or intertaine them, theee would willingly that those of such profession, should keepe themselues without the Limits of her Kingdome.

But if against her will, they would come into her Land to sow the seed of the Sedition, & Rebellion amongst her Subiects, and to lay their plots how to supprize her life, and to make a way for Forraigne Enemie, with bloody handes to enter vpon her Dominions. And by Hostill Inuasion to bring her Kingdomes to destruction,

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The L. Cokes charge,

tion, and to expose her people vnto the Slarie of a seruile yoke. What should her Maiestie lesse haue done in the prevention of such a Lamentable euill, but to hang vp them that were the principall Actors in so bloody and Tragickall a Tyranny.

From the yeere eightie one, to eightie eight, her Maiestie was not free from Continuall *Traiterous* and *Rebellious* practises, desperately attempted against her life, or intended subuersion of her Kingdome. First the *Popes* forces beeing overthrowne in *Ireland*, the *Pope* and *King of Spaine*, presently ioyned with the *Duke of Guise*, for the executing of a most desperate designment against her Maiestie. *Arden* and *Somervile*, would haue laid violent hands vpon her sacred person. *Doctor Parrie* intended the like villanie. *Northumberland* reuolted from his obedience. *Mendoza* the *Iesuite*, and others of that *Crue* or *Sect*, appointed by the *Pope* to order & Mannage these deuellish designments.

In the yeere eightie, to foretunne the purposed *Spanish Inuasion*, against which time *Campion*, *Parsons*, *Haywoode*, and all the *Iesuites* and *Seminaries*, had so besturred themselues. There is certaine bookes printed beyond the Seas, sent ouer into *England*, therby to prepare the hearts of our people, to ioyne with *Spaine*, and to take vp Armes against their Soueraigne, with perswasions grounded

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grounded vpon this position: *Viz. That in all warres which may happen for Religion: euery Catholike man is ioyned in conscience to imploy his person and forces by the Popes direction, that is, how far, when, where, & how either at home or abroad, he may and must breake with his temporall Soueraigne, and that vpon paine of deadly sinne.* Vpon a foundation so diabolicall: What fruits other then diuellish can be expected? And yet, do but further note how damnable a spirit is in their bookes and writings bewrayed.

All the Papists in this kingdome, were most violently perswaded, that vpon the *Spanish* inuasion, they should all ioyne their greatest force with *Spaine*. It was in them accounted an error of conscience, want of courage, and effeminate dastardie, that they had suffered her Maiestie almost thirtie yeares to raigne ouer them. They were threatned with Excommunication, and vtter ruine, both of themselves and their posteritie, if they did any longer obey and defend, or acknowledge her highnes to be their *Queene* or superior, and did not forthwith ioyne their forces to the Spaniards. And to the end, that this most godlesse, trayterous, inhumane and vnnaturall appointment, by subiects to their lawfull annointed Soueraigne, and natieue countrey, might receiue the better acceptance. There was vsed a most insinuating, though faithlesse manner of perswasion, guilded ouer with a seeming shew of Holinesse: (For thus,) our *English Romane Catholikes* were promised) *That in the king of Spaines army, there were diuerse Priests ready to serue*

The L. Cokes charge,

enerie mans spirituall necessitie, by confession, counsell, and all consolation in Christ Iesus, and that they should be so assisted by the blessed patrons, both in heauen, & in earth, with the gard of all Gods holy Angels, with our blessed Saniour in the soueraigne Sacrament, and with the daily, most holy Oblation of Christs owne deare body and bloud. As that it could not fall out otherwise, but that they should assuredly preuaile: Hereby may the world perceiue in what Angelike manner of brightnesse Popish doctrine can suite treasons damnable, euen as blacke as hell.

You haue heard what preparation was prouided by the Pope and Papists, for the furtherance of Spaines intended inuasion, wee will now proceed to matter of action. And but call to our remembrance (that euer to bee remembered) powerfull worke of God :) for our deliuerance in the year 88. The king of Spaines *Armado*, that admirable, & warlike nauie, so well furnished with valiant souldiers, and all munition fit for warre, when suddenly wee were in danger by a Potent enemy to be surprised, when her late Maiesties Royall Nauie, was scarcely put forth to sea. And the best ships of strength not fully furnished with shot and powder, as was necessarie in so weightie a businesse: yet to the neuer dying glory of a maiden Queene, such was her princely power, although at sea but in part vnprovided, as that by the loue and grace of heauens eternall providence, her Maiestie by a most noble *Battell* at sea, euen in the presence of her kingdoms *Territories*, did vtterly disperse and
ouer.

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ouerthrow, that furnamed inuincible Spanish nauie, so that not any Spaniards floate, (vnlesse brought captiue could arriue) vpon her Englands shoare. Nor but verie few of their so much admired fleete of shippes, returned to their natieue home. Thus did God on Queene *Elizabeth* bestow a glorious victorie, euen in the despite of Pope, Papist, trayterous Iesuites, Seminaries, Monkes, Friers, and all the rablement of that Antichristian See.

The power of Spaine, was brought against vs, by the procurement of our English Papists, and what recompence was intended for them, in the charity of their catholike profession may appeare, by that which the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* affirmed, which was, *That both Catholickes and Heretikes that came in his way, should be all one to him, his sword could not discerne them, so hee might make way for his maister, all was one to him.* Thus did Papists, as still they doe, desire to worke our downefall in the certaintie of their owne destruction.

God hatin shewed his loue to our late Queen and Kingdome, by that wonderfull deliuerance before described: The Pope to further his accustomed indeuors, practised with Spaine, about a new inuasion, and the better to bring his purpose to passe: *Parsons*, that auncient Iesuite, and most notorious traytor vnder the Pope, chiefe gouernour of all the Iesuites, (principall enemies to Iesus,) was placed in the *Spanish*

The L. Cokes charge,

Court, by whose perswasion there was a new *Seminarie* erected at *Valedolyde*, from whence in three yeares, there was sent thirteene priests into England, to prepare a passage for the new intended inuasion. Whereupon in the year 1591. a Proclamation went forth for the apprehending of all such Priests or Seminaries, as should come from Spaine. Because their intention was knowne vnto the State here. But to the end the Diuell (the Pope I should say) might want no instrument for the effecting of murthers, treasons, and rebellions, by *Parsons* procurement, more Seminaries were erected in Spaine, (and England still troubled with Romes trayterous disciples. But the new inuasion being twise set on foote, God did so warre against their purposes, as that their prepared Navie was at sea, disperfed by stormes, so as most of them endured shipwracke.

That expectation failing, then was the Infant of Spaine intituled to the Crowne of *England*: (and to that end, sundry bookes diuulged) *Queene Elizabeth* was by them accounted a tyrant: more tyrannicall then *Nero*, *Decius*, *Dioclesion*, *Maxentius*, or any the greatest persecutors of the Christians: Not thus contented, from the year 88. to the year 99. there were continual treasons practised against the Royall person of her late Maiestie, *Patricke*, *Collen*, *Lopez*, *Torke*, *William's*, *Squire*, all attempting to murder her Highnesse.

All these attempts, plots, proiects, & trayterous stratagems, taking no effect. Then was there from
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the Pope a new Bull sent, wherby the Papists were commaunded to vse a formall manner of obedience, vntill they might grow to be a strength sufficiently strong to depose the Queene. Which expectati-on once accomplished, then had they power by the said Bull to take vp armes against her. Thus they neuer left cōtinuall practising, vntill a little before her Maiesties death: about which time, by some of the principall *Agents*, in the last most horrible treason, there was complotted another Spanish inuasion: For the accomplishing wherof, the younger *VVinter* was a messenger vnto the King of Spaine, and *Guydo Fawkes* vnto the Pope, and a third was employed to the Archduke.

The King of Spaine at that time beeing our enemy, entertained *VVinters* motion, with most kinde acceptance, protesting that the English Catholiks should bee as deare vnto him, as his home-boorne *Castillians*, and in loue to the intended businesse, vowed in the word of a King to defend their safety, (all which, as souldiers say) with pollicie in warre he might do) beeing then our enemy. But it is a matter cleane out of my *Element*, and therefore I will dispute no further about it: But the Counsell of Spaine holding a conference about the manna-ging of the plot by *VVinter* layd. It was obiected that there would be want of horse for such a businesse. Whereupon *VVinter* vndertaketh to furnish them with a certaine number, and receiueth gold to that end. At last the purposed designement being embraced with a generall consent, a souldier

The L. Cokes charge,

standing by, being some Commander, a Captaine, or such like, ruffles out this souldier like Latine, *Nunc tempus pro nobis erit aliquid obtinere: Now shall it be time for us to get something.* But in the midst of this intended preparation, it happened, that her Maiestie Royall, and most gracious *Elizabeth* died: And our now Imperiall Soueraigne King *James*, did both inherite her kingdomes and her vertues.

His maiestie beeing with peace establisht in his royall seate, the king of spaine would no longer embrace his former purposed appointment: Nor would consent, that any thing should against a King bee plotted, with whome hee neuer had warre: Nor by whome he neuer receiued any injury. So as our Papists were in that behalfe dismissed of their expected hope: and enforced to seeke out some other meanes; and now I will bewray a secret (I am sure not generally knowne.) In the discourse whereof I doe desire attention.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, who was accounted the last best of many Popes, (all notwithstanding being naught. He vnderstanding Spaines purpose, as before is specified, concerning an inuasion, supposing that the *Queene* might die before that businesse tooke effect: And foreseeing vnto whome these kingdomes should of right descend, sent secretly a Bull into England, which was so closely concealed, amongst our Papistes heere, as that her Maiestie in her life time, knewe not thereof

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thereof. (For if she had) I am sure, that by reason of mine employment neare vnto her, I should haue heard if she had knowne any such thing. But assuredly both her selfe, and the *State*, were ignorant thereof.

But now this Bull being brought to light (which my selfe haue seene and read) it importeth thus much. *Quando contingeret illam miseriam Elizabetham mortuam esse, That when that miserable wench Elizabeth should happen to die, Tunc nos volumus, Then we will, that all and euerie of you, do vse your best and vtermost endeuors, quibuscunq; modis & vijs, by what strength or meanes so ener to keepe out the Scottish Heretike, that in any wise he may not be admitted to the kingdome of England, vnlesse he would reconcile himselfe to Rome, and hold his crowne of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his subiects to the religion of the Roman Church: this Bull vntill Garnet was taken, slept in England, beeing filled with a most proud, scornfull and Trayterous bouldnes.*

When that *miserimum facinorans*, Miserable woman or wench Elizabeth shall dye, had the papall proude vsurper, no other attribute to bestowe vppon a *Queene* then *Miserable wench*: shee liued Renowned through all the Corners of the world, shee ruled in peace, beloued of all her Subiects, vnlesse those infected with the *Romane Leprosie*, she was admired, & feared, confronting all oppositions, with vndoubted confidence, shee was a Prince potent enough, to defend her Kingdomes, and to helpe her Neighbours being oppressed
with

The L. Cokes charge,

with glorious victorie she beat spaine from off her coasts, and risked him in the bosome of his owne kingdome, wrapping his townes and shippes in cloudes of re and smoake. She swaied the Roiall Scepter of her kingdomes gouernment with triumphant victorie; maintaining peace amongst her people, euen in the worlds dispiht, 44 yeares her vnmatched wisdome, and vnconquered prowes crowned her the *peerles wonder* of her sexe: she liu'd and died a Queene, her life beloued, and her death lamented: And yet for all this, was she no more in the Popes account, then a *miserable wench*. Let the Popes pride sinke to hell: whilest heauens *Elizabeth* (whose blessed soule from earth to heauen is taken) doth, and shall with *God and Christ* for euer liue in the heauenly glorie of eternall happinesse.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, hauing by his Bull, as before specified, giuen commaundement that the Papists should by all meanes howsoeuer withhold our now Soueraigne from his lawfull right. (And notwithstanding that *Rebellious Commission*,) his Maiestie being with great ioy peaceably enstalled. *Peersie & Catesby* went vnto their great Prouinciall *Garnet*, & of him enquired, whether the king being as he was already established, they might by vertue of the Popes Bull, vse any meanes to supplant or depose him, considering they were not of force to withstand his comming at the first. And *Garnet* answered, that vndoubtedly they might, whereupon they presently resolved to put in execution that

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that most horrible powder treason, the like where-
of, vntill that time, was neuer to the world repor-
ted,

Some are of opinion, that if a tolleration of re-
ligion had bin admitted vnto the Papists: that then
no such bloudie stratagem should by any of them
haue bene practised. But if you shall consider the
tenor of the Popes Bull, you may then perceiue,
that their request of indifferent Tolleration was
but a colourable pretence in them. For that might
not haue serued the turnes: For they were enioy-
ned to worke his Maiesties ouerthrow, vnlesse hee
would reconcile himselfe to *Rome*, hold his Crown
of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his sub-
iects to the Religion of the *Roman Church*: It is not
then a toleration only which they seeke, nor could
they haue beene contented therewith (although so
much shall neuer be graunted vnto the.) They may
therefore easily despaire of the rest (though they
the Pope and the Diuell) doe neuer so much con-
spire to bring their Hell-borne practises to passe.

As touching the last horred treason, by inhuman
sauages complotted: I knowe not what to speake,
because I want words, to describe the trayterous,
detestable, tyrannicall bloudy, murtherous vil-
lany of so vilde an action. Onely this had their
horrible attempt taken place. This *Sea Inuy-
conde ylande*, the beauty, and wonder of the world.
This so famous and farre renown'd great *Brit-
tains Monarchy*, had at one blowe endured a re-
couerlesse ruine, beeing ouerwhelmed in a sea of

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bloud,

The L.Cokes charge,

bloud, all those euils, should haue at one instant happened, which would haue made this happiest kingdome of all kingdomes, the most vnhappy. Our conquering Nation, conquered in her selfe: her faire and fertile bosome, beeing by her owne natie (though foule vnnaturall children) torne in peeces, should haue beene made a scorne to all the nations of the earth. This so well planted, pleasant, fruitfull worlds, accounted *Edens paradise* should haue beene by this time, made a place disconsolate, a wast and desert wilderness, generally ouerrunne with heards of bloud-desiring wolues. This so well govern'd, Populous, potent Monarchy, had in one moment beene left without either *King, Queene, Prince, State, Nobility, Law, Iustice*, or any strength of gouernment, sodainly had we then beene throwne not onely to the cruelty of ciuill warre, that too too murderous *Domestick* spoylingemie: But also even in that instant generally haue beene exposed vnto the all deuouring hand of forraine Enemies, in our Congregations, the songs of *Syon* had no more beene sung: But in their steed had bin brought vnto vs the songs of *Gehenna* sent from *Rome*: that Sathans synagogue, all our best freedoms liberty, had by this beene turn'd into the worst bondage of most slauiish seruitude: *Papists Romane Catholicks*, that would haue wrought all our destructions thus; Should not Iustice, iustly then commaund their actions chiefly to be enquired of.

If what hath beene spoken, be vnto your memories,

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ries committed, you may then consider, that from the eleuenth yeare of Queene *Elizabeths* Raigne, vntill the third yeare of our now Soueraignes gouernement, the Papists haue continually labored to aduance the supremacie of the *Romane Church*, which to accomplish they haue contended thirtie foure yeares, in which time they haue not omitted to practise Treasons and Rebellions only amongst vs here at home. But haue also complotted to bring vpon vs *Forraine Inuasions*, & that from time to time, so soone as they were dismissed of one hope, they presently set on foote some other proiect: both at home and abroad, and still being by the loue and mercie of God towards vs continually preuented: At last, taking counsell with hell, and *Sathan*, they had practised a most hellish attempt, wherein their Diuellishnesse brought it selfe nearest to the nature of the Diuell, making fire and brimstone the instruments of our destruction. And though the principall Actors of that euill, haue thereby themselues destroyed: yet the former experience of their continuall attempting may giue ys warning, that they will not yet cease to attempt, and though that *Iesuites* and *Seminaries* haue beene the principall Agents in all the seuerall complotted treasons, and that the Papists amongst vs cannot generally be accused, yet thus much I must say, those persons, and that Religion whereby *Iesuites* and *Seminaries* are receiued, protected and concealed, are equally to be accounted dangerous, for were there not such receiuers a-

The *L. Cokes* charge,

amongst vs, *Romes* state, Traytors would not so fast come, swymming from *Tyber* hither to arriue at *Tyborne*. Onely I conclude, therefore, that if in great *Brittaine*, there were no Papists, this *Mornar. chy* should be as free from treason as any Nation in the world.

But now deare Contrimen, seeing you haue heard what godlesse and dangerous practises haue continually by *Romes* favorites beene plotted against vs. I desire that with attention, you wil vnderstand what it is (as they say) for which with such vehemency they contend. The world is made belieue, that the aduancement of Religion is the onely cause for which they striue, wherein they ioyne themselues vnto the *Pope*, because there is no religion good, but that which is by the *Pope* allowed, wherein my purpose is to binde all Papists vnto their owne assertion.

That *Pius Quintus* whome those of their side doe account to haue beene a good *Pope* (though by false perswasions too much misled) before the time of his excommunication against Queene *Elizabeth* denounced, sent his letter vnto her Maiestie, in which hee did allowe the *Bible*, and Booke of *Diuine service*, as it is now vsed amongst vs, to bee authenticke, and not repugnant to truth. But that therein was contayned enough necessary to saluation, though there was not in it, so much as might conueniently bee) and that hee would also allowe it vnto vs, without chaunging any parte: so as her Maiestie would

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acknowledge to receiue it from him the *Pope*, (& by his allowance) which her Maiesty denying to do, she was then presently by the same *Pope* excommunicated: And this is the truth concerning *Pope Pius Quintus*, as I haue faith to God and Men. I haue oftentimes heard auowed by the late *Queene* her owne wordes: And I haue conferred with some *Lords* that were of greatest reckoning in the *State*, who had seene and read the letter, which the *Pope* sent to that effect: as haue beene by me specified. And this vpon my credit, as I am an honest man, is most true.

By this then all our *English Papists*, either *Iesuites* or *Seminaries* may learne to knowe that it is not Religion that they strue for, but onely to maintaine the *Antichristian* head of *Romes* vsurpt supremacie. And if there bee in this presence any *Romane Catholicks*, or so many of this nation, as shall here of that which hath now beene spoken. I entreate them, as my deare and louing countrey-men, that they will no longer bee seduced, by any liuing spirite sent from Rome, the *Pope*, whom they belecue, hath himselfe allowed, that in our Church *Wee haue a doctrine of Faith and Religion, sufficiently necessarie to Salvation*: Deere Countrey-men, wee haue then enough, and neede not the helpe of any *Pope*, Sythence all the *Papists* generally came vnto our Churches before our late *Queene Elizabeth* was excommunicated.) Against our *Dread Soueraigne* there is no Excommunication denounced. In Gods name,

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then let vs ioyne in our prayers, and Sacraments, and performe a due obedience to God, and to our *King*, as we are all of one Nation, so let vs be all of one *Church*, and *Christ* being only our head, let vs all desire as in one sheeple, to be the sanctified members of his glorious bodie.

If there be any Papists so foolish, and altogether reasonlesse, as to expect that in time his Maiestie may be drawne to such alteration, or Toleration: as they desire. I will them assuredly to knowe, they hope in vaine, for his Maiestie is, and euer hath bene confidently resolu'd in matter of *Religion*, to continue the selfe same order and profession, which he now professeth. Whereof I will giue you an instance, Since the time of the Earle of *Northumberlands* Imprisonment, there was amongst his papers found a letter, which was objected against him in *Starre Chamber*, when himselfe was called vnto his answer: The letter was directed to the *Kings Maiestie*, that now is, as he was then *King of Scotland*. In which amongst other things, the Earle had aduised his *Highnesse* not to desire to bee proclaimed Heire apparant to this *Crowne*, nor proclaime *Prince Henry* to be the *Prince of Wales*, But to stay the time, vntill the *Queenes* death. And that then he would resolue at his comming to admit vnto the *Catholickes* a Toleration for their religion, which he requested, because the Papists did put some trust in him, to Sollicit that businesse in their behalfe. This letter being read, his Maiesties owne answer was shewed: (Till that time, by Gods
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owne hand preferued) to signifie vnto the world, his religious vnremoued confidence. To the first parte of the *Earles* letter, his *Hignesse* answered, that hee had no contrary purpose, but to attend Gods leasure. And for his motion concerning the *Catholicks* tolleration, he was purposed to come vnto this kingdome in peace. But as touching matter of Government, he was resolu'd neuer to alter any thing, either in *Church* or *State*. His Maiesties most noble and *Kingly* resolution, not enduring then to temporize vnder any pretext of humane pollicy. Can it now be thought, that his *Hignes* will be remoued in matter of Religion, from that Station whereupon his Soules saluation standeth built.

Such Papists (as notwithstanding the impossibility of their hope will still remaine peruerse) despising to be admonished: Let them know for certainty, that the lawes concerning them, shall receiue a most strict and seuerer execution, you therefore of the Iury, ought to be very carefull in that businesse. And all the iustices in their seuerall Limits, are in their allegiance to the *King*, bound in conscience to vse all diligence so to obserue the Papists, as that vnto their houses, there bee not any *Iesuites* or *Seminaries* intertayned. For their practise, is to Alienate the hearts of our *English* Subjects, from the obedience to their soveraigne. In which imployment, though the Iesuites bee most notorious, yet I account the *Seminarie* Priests more dangerous; Because their estimation stealeth to it selfe

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selfe a better opinion in the hearts of the simple. Notwithstanding, all their worke is directed to one and the selfe same end; If all good Subiects then shall desire the administration of *Iustice*, according to the Lawes established: they may either be conuerted or supplanted. By whome our subuersion, and vtrer supplanting hath so often times beene attempted. I therefore leaue them, their actions and proceedings to be iudged off, and carefully to be lookt into, by your most mature consideration and best diligence, least that our too too much conueniencie, doth yet vntimely bring vpon vs some dangerous mischiese. Them and their actions therfore are principally in the first place to be enquired of, and that with such regard as their cunning may by no meanes outreach the meaning of the Statute Law inacted for their punishment, wherein though there be as much concluded, as the wisdom of our state could deuise, in the preuention of any future euill, yet as I heare the *Pope* hath already granted such dispensation, as that by their hellish sophistrie of equiuocating, they may take a course wherein to deceiue our hope of their amendment, but in Gods name let the law prouided, receiue a iust and faithfull execution, & then doubt not, but their faithlesse Popish policie shall be sufficiently preuented. And that in time the most sacred person of Gods anointed King, whom *Pope Clement the 9*, could proudly dare to tearme the scottish *Heristike*, shall vnderneath his Princely foot tread downe Romes faithlesse *Papall* proud
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and Antichristian heresie, & now in hels despight, vertuous King *James* being the *Imperiall* Maiesty of great *Brittains Monarchy*, the strength of whose establisht awfull gouernment, makes the proudest Territories & most strong foundation of earths *Babilonde* to shake, I doubt not but in his royal selfe and his most blest posterity, as is already by force of his commaunding power, not without iust cause fearefully suspected, the destruction of the scarlet whore shall be made certaine to her, and her adulterates, when they together shall bee with wrath destroyed for the accōplishing of which most glorious worke, let all true beleeuing protestants, like faithfull subiects to their lawfull *Soueraigne* yeelede their best obedience to his highnesse lawes, and thus much concerning *Romane Catholikes*,

Those that you are in the second place to enquier of, are a second manner of Recusants, though nothing so dangerous as the *Popish recusant* is, yet are they a Sect not to be tollerated in any *Monarchyall* gouernment. They are a certaine Brotherhood, which can indure no *Bishops*: The originall founder of their schisme, as they now professe, it hath (as some of them say) turnd an *Apostotat*, to his first profession, so as now they are asbamed of his name, and will by no meanes in their fraternity be deriued from him, yet they remaine knowne to the world, by the name of *Brownings*. The most part of them are simple, & Illiterate people. And they together with those of that sort, which seeme to haue learning, are as all the rest, onely arrogant, and

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wilfully peruerse, fitter to be reformed by punishment, rather then by argument: And though their ignorance vnderstands not what they doe, yet doe their endeauours strue to shake in sundert he whole frame of our *Emperiall* gouernment, for if (as they desire) the forme of our *Ciuill Lawes* were a brogated, Then should our *Common Law*, and it of necessity fall together. For they are so *wouen* and *incorporated* each in other, as that without the one, the other cannot stand: for example.

An action Reall, beeing brought at *common Law*, in Bar thereof Bastardy is pleaded, our *common Law* can then proceed no further, vntill by the *ciuill Law* the matter of Bastardy be determined, So is it in the right of a *Womans Dowre*, and in the tryall of *VVills*; In all these, and diuerse others without the Assistance of the *ciuill Law*, the *comon Law* hath no power to determine. If then the *ciuill Law* must of necessity remain, it is no lesse necessary that the iudges therof should be continued.

And againe without the graue assembly of our Reuerend *Bisbops*, his Maiesties high court of parliament, should be vnfurnished, no law being there enacted, but that which is by the *King*, his Lords spirituall and temporall confirmed. These therefore that would haue no *Bisbops* amongst vs, do in their desires strue, from his highnes, and the dignity of his State, to pluck the right hand of gouernment, and as much as in them lyeth to break in sunder, the golden frame of iust *Authority* for if no *Bisbops*, then no *Lawes*, if no *Lawes*, no *Kings* and

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and to this heig'ht doth their presumption cline, although their ideot blindnes seems as if they did not vnderstand so much; the mischiefe of their schisme is most vn sufferable: For neuer was there a nation knowne to flourish hauing a *Monarchie* in the kingdom, and a *Mallachie* in the Church. And therefore you of the Iurie faile not to enquire of all such Se-ctaries and present them.

It is therefore the faithfull Protestant, that only sets the *Crowne* vpon our Soueraignes head, & holds it vp so fast, as no opposition can make it shake. And by their loyall hands will *Heauen* be pleased, to keep it safe from falling, which Mercy in the most *Royall issue* now established, God for christis sake cōfirme vnto vs, so long as Sun & Moon endureth.

The last sort of Recusants, though trouble some, (yet in my conscience the least dangerous) are those which do with too much violence, contend against some ceremonies vsed in the Church, with whose indirect proceedings, in mine owne knowledge, his Maiestie is not a little grieued. But I will hope (as his *Hightnesse* doth) that in time, they will grow wise enough to leaue their foolishnesse, and consider that ceremonies not against the Analogie of Faith, nor hindring Faiths deuotion, are no such bug-bears as should scar them from the exercises of diuine duties, nor cause them to disturbe the peace of our Church, whose gouernment is more consonant to Scripture then all the best reformed Churches at this day in the world. You of the Iurie faile not therefore to enquire of their abuses,

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which do delay to conformance themselues vnto the lawes obedience, that such of them as doe growe insolent, may not go unpunished: And thus much concerning our three sorts of *Recusants*.

Thus hauing touched these groning euils, which beeing well considered, doe cri for iustice against themselues, threatning(if not suppress(To make our *Comon wealth* to grone vnder the burthen of inforced calamity. I will now, from them proceed vnto those growing enormities, whose vngouerned height is already to such imperfectiō grown, as that the iustice of this kingdomes gouernment, receiueth scandall by their meanes, and the publick *weale* grieved by vniust oppression.

I heare a generall complaint against the multiplicity of *Ecclesiasticall Courts*, and that causes are in them continued longer then an vpriight and orderly proceeding would necessarily inforce, by meanes wherof, his *Maiesties* good subiects, do receiue losse, and are much hindered by their so often constrained attendance. But in this *Dioesse*, I hope the occasion of any such complaint, shall no more be hard of, because I speake before those reuerend Magistrates,* in whose authority consisteth sufficient power to re forme those abuses already complained vpon, I will therefore insist no further, few words content the wise, what I haue spoken, I know is heard by an aproued wisdom.

As touching the pennall Statutes for the punishing of any vnreuerent demeanure in churches,

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*The L. Bishop
and the Chancel.
Iour of this dioces
being then present
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or violence offered to the ministers, or quarrelling stryking, or drawing of any weapon in Church, or Church yard, I know they bee ordinary matters, giuen in euery charge. And therefore you are not ignorant of the Lawes in that case made and provided: I will therefore in respect of the shortnesse of the time, onely point out vnto you some seuerall officers, whose actions not beeing sufficiently looked into, many abuses are committed, which do passe unpunished.

Our common wealth, Receiues much iniurie by our *Escheators*, who by abusing their commission, doe most intollerable wrong, to many of his Maiesties good Subiects, for an *Escheator* will come into the country, and beeing informed of an honest *Yeoman* deceased, be it that his Lands, bee not aboute the yearly value of forty or fiftie Pounds, & leauing an *Heire* behind him, an inquiry shall bee made, by what euidence euery acre of ground is holden, and finding but one peece, for which an expresse euidence cannot bee shewed, for that particular parcell, Then by a Iury to that end Summoned by the *Escheator*, that peece of ground must be adiudged to be held in *Capite*. And so an office beeing found: all the whole inheritance must be raynted, and the yong heire a ward to the *King*, who then beeing presently Begged by some one or other, by then hee hath compounded for his wardship, sued out his liuery, and then perhaps marryed to one starke naught, or not worth any

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thing, the yong heire shall bee left iust worth so much, and no more: And this (as I thinke) is a most lamentable thing. God forbid that euery man should be inforced by such course, to proue his right in euery particular acre of ground which he hath. For many particular peeces are oft included in one euidence, without being distinguished by seuerall names. So that it is impossible, but by such course, as the *Escheator* takes, lands that neuer held in *Capite*, must needs be brought in compasse of such *Tenure*. And againe, the intent of the Law, for the benefit of the *king*, looketh only to Manors, Lands, and Tenements of great value, without hauing respect to such petty things. Where an heire to cleare the incumbrance, must ouerthrow his estate, loose his inheritance, and be vndone for euer. But this notwithstanding, so the *Escheator* may haue his part, in the spoile, he careth not to vse any indirect corruption. You of the Iurie therefore for the good of your selues and yours, carefully looke to the proceedings vsed in this case, and such abuse as you shall find therein, let it be presented. And such as shall bee found offenders, they shall know, that we haue lawes to punish them. For prooofe whereof, I would you could find out some, of whom there might be made an example: But if you will be content to let the *Escheator* alone, and not looke vnto his actions, he will bee contented by deceiuing you, to change his name, taking vnto himselfe the two last syllables, only with the *Es* left out: and so turne *Chetor*.

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We haue then an excellent *Officer*, surnamed the *Clarke* of the *Market*, concerning whose office, for mine owne part, I see not the necessitie thereof, considering the Iustices of peace in their seuerall limmits, are at euery Sessions to enquire of, and to punish all those abuses which are by the *Clarke* of the market continued, vnder shew of reformation. For he will come downe and call before him all waights and measures, and where a fault is found, there must a Fee be payd, which is deuided betwixt him and the Informer: So the offendor payes for his offence, to the end it might be continued, but not reformed. And thus the *Clarke* of the market by receiuing bribes, enricheth himselfe, by abusing his Maiesties lawes, and wronging his Subiects. It was once my hap to take a *Clarke* of the market in these trickes: But I aduancst him higher then his fathers sonne; by so much as from the ground to the toppe of the Pillorie. If you of the Iurie will therefore haue a care to find out these abuses, by Gods grace they shall not goe unpunished. For we haue a *Coyse*, which signifies a *Scull*: whereby in the execution of Iustice, wee are defended against all oppositions, bee they neuer so violent.

There is a certaine ruffling officer, which will seeme to command much by the authoritie of his *Cōmission*. And he wilbe known to be a *Purueyor*. Some of which officers, if they can find nothing to be dealing with, they will puruey mony out of your purses: if you will suffer them. But know there is no
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mony to be purueyed, vnlesse by the high way side, and any Purueyor that shall take such course, is but in his passage the high way to the *gallowes*.

But to speake of that, which may by them bee lawfully done, admit a Purueyor commeth downe with Commission, to take vp timber for the *Kings* vse; What timber is it then that he must take: He cannot come and pull downe any timber in my house, what then? May he go into any of my woods which I purpose to preferue, and there marke out of my best timber, and inforce me to suffer it to be felled, and carried away at the kings price? No, There is not any such authoritie granted vnto him. But only thus, If I haue any timber felled, which I purpose to sell: then may the Purueyor (the King hauing vse of timber) come and make choise of what trees he will: For there is great reason, that in such case the king should first be serued. But if any of you do desire to preferue your timber growing, be not scared with a Purueyors warrant: Nor do not preferue the standing of your trees by bribing any one of them. The dignitie of his Maiesties prerogative *Royall* is not vsed to enforce his subiects to indure wrong. But the rust being scoured off, which abused time, hath cast vpon it, then will the glorie thereof shine in the perfection of an vncorrupted brightnesse. You of the Iurie therefore looke into the abuses done by *Purueyors*, and present them.

Relides these spoken of, There is also a Salt-peter man, whose Commission is not to breake vp any mans

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mans house or ground without leaue. And not to deale with any house, but such as is vnused for any necessarie imployment by the owner. And not to digge in any place without leauing it smooth and leuell: in such case as he found it. This *Salt-Peter* man vnder shew of his authoritie, though being no more then is specified, will make plaine and simple people beleeeue, that hee will without their leaue breake vp the floore of their dwelling house, vnlesse they will compound with him to the contrary. Any such fellow, if you can meete with all, let his misde-menor be presented, that he may be taught better to vnderstand his office: For by their abuse the country is often times troubled.

There is another troublesome fellow called a *Concealer*, who is indeed little better then a plaine *Cosiner*, and would in many things be proued so, if well looked vnto, there be many *Statute* lawes to preuent the occurrence of his mischife, giue him not a peny for any of his claimes or titles: For they are meere illusions, and like himselte not worth any thing.

There be 4 sorts of people, whom if you obserue, you shall find not any of them to thriue. I haue alwayes knowne them little better then beggers, and may easily be knowne by these names. A *Concealer* of whom I haue spoken: vnto whom is rightly ioyned a *Promootet*, a *Monopolitan*, and an *Alcun- mist*: The *Prmooter* is both a *begger* and a *knaue*, and may, if well looked vnto, in the part of an *In- former* (For many abuses) by your information ey-

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ther be well punished or reformed. Their Office, I confesse, is necessarie: And yet it seldome happeneth, that an honest man is imployed therein: yet there is some hope, that by punishing their abuses, they may at the last bee made honest against their wils. In which imployment, you of the Iurie shall do well to vse a respectiue diligence.

As touching the *Monopolitane*, hee for the most part vseth at a deare rate to pay for his foolishnes: For some of that profession, haue bene so wise, to sell twentie, thirtie, or perhaps fortie pound land a yeare, and bestow most part of the money in purchasing of a *Monopolie*: Thereby to anoy and hinder the whole *Publicke VVeale* for his owne priuat benefit: In which course he so well thriueth, as that by toying some short time, either in *Starch*, *Vineger*, or *Aquanita*, he doth in the end thereby purchase to himselfe an absolute beggerie, and for my owne part, their purposes and practises considered, I can wish vnto them no better happinesse.

But then our golden Foole the *Alcumist*, he will be striuing to make Gold and Siluer, vntill he leaues himselfe not worth a pennies weight in either of both, I will not deny, but to vnderstand the nature, quintessence, & spirit of the *Minerals*, out of them to extract a *Metaphisicall* and *Paracelsian* manner of Physicke, may according to art be commendable, but by the studie of *Alcumie*, to desire to turne imperfect mettals into Gold and Siluer, such labour I account ridiculous: and oftentimes by those of this *Cumicall Science* is Fellony comitted:

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For by any imperfect commixture, to vse multiplication, either in Gold or Siluer, is directly Fello-nie by *Statute Law*: you of the Iurie are therefore to enquire of such offenders, and present them.

Because I must hast vnto an end, I wil request that you will carefully put in execution the *Statute* against *Vagabants*: Since the making whereof, I haue found fewer theeuers, and the *Gaole* lesse pestered then before.

The abuse of *Stage players*, wherewith I find the Countrey much troubled, may easily be reformed: They hauing no Commission to play in any place without leaue: And therefore, if by your willingnesse they be not entertained you may soone be rid of them.

You are also concerning *Innes* and *Alehouses* diligently to obserue what the *Statute Lawe* determineth. As also to keep the orders set down by my honorable predecessor, concerning which, there is now by the appointment of the *Lords of the Counsel*, certaine *Briefes* to be deliuered vnto all the *Iustices* in their seuerall *Limmits*. And assuredly, if you of the Iurie, pettie *Constables*, *Chiefe Constables*, and *Iustices* of Peace, would together labour that the *Lawes* carefully *Enacted* for our good, might receiue a due and iust execution, abuses would then bee reformed, *God* and our *King* faithfully serued and honored. And the tranquillitie of our *Publicke weale* preserued: which so great happinesse, that it may the better be accomplished, I would request, that all imployed in any place of authoritie, would haue an speciall care to suppress that root of euill, from

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whence all mischiefs do proceed, and that is *Idleness*: For idle persons are those of whom the *Psalme* speaketh, *They doe wickedly all the day long, they imagine wickednes upon their beds, the imaginations of their hearts are euill continually*, and such for the most part are all those, giuen ouer to an idle disposition: who by their wickednes do make themselues worse then beasts: For, *Homo malus infinitis modis plura mala perpetraverit quam bestia, an euill man by an infinite manner committeth more euill then a beast*. For the reformation of which dangerous euill you shall do well to haue an especiall eie vnto the company that frequent *Tauerns, Innes, Alehouses, Bouling allies* and such like thriftles places of resort, where you shall find *Tradesmen* and *Artificers*, which haue no other meanes whereby to liue, then onely the lawfull vse of their *Science*, or *Manuall profession*. And yet such is their vnthrifitie idlenesse, as they will spend their time and labors profit, at some, or all the places before recited: whilst their wiues and childern sit at home and weepe, wanting necessarie maintenance: Those of such condition, let them be inquired of and presented: For were the Iustice of the Law rightly executed vppon such offenders (they receiuing condigne punishment for their offence) would be inforced to betake them selues vnto a better course of life, and liue as becometh good Subiects in the list of a more commended obedience.

Of that idle company, you shall also finde some of our accounted *Gallants* young *Gentlemen*, vpstarts

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stars, perhaps honest yeomens sonnes, that by their intemperate *Ryote*, loue to spend their inheritance before they come to inherit, and being questioned for their chargeable and expensive manner of liuing, they will branely answer that they spend nothing but their owne: And will seeme as if they scorn'd to be reformed by *admonition* or *authoritie*. The law prouideth a course whereby to teach such vain & idle *ryotors* so to spend, that they may keepe their owne: For when by their misdemenor all their owne is spent; Then their next course is to liue vpon the goods of others: and then at last, such Gallants turning starke theeues, do make their last period at the *Gallowes*, reaping to themselves, by an vntimely death, the fruit of idlenesse.

There is also a sort of idle seeming *Gentlemen*, whom if you do obserue, you shall find them walking with a gray-hound in a slip, or a birding peece vpon their necke, and they forsooth will make a path ouer the *Statute Law*, and into any mans *Grounds*, *Lordships*, or *Liberties*, passe and repasse at their pleasure: As if it were lawfull for euery Fellow to keepe a *Gray-hound*, and to hunt, when and where he listeth, or as if a birding peece were no *Gunne*, and so not included in the Statute made against *Gunnes*.

But if you would find out those fellowes, and present them, they shall be taught to know themselves: And that the wisdome of a *Kingdomes State*, in the framing of a *Statute Law*, could not be deluded by a vaine & shallow brain'd idlenesse of their

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rauculous Foolery. Let them be therfore punished whose misdemenor in this case offendeth.

The better to prevent the *Ryotous* expence of vn-thrifty idlenesse, you shall do well to haue a speci-
all care vnto the *Statute* for *Apparell*, by the neglect whereof too much abuse is nourished.

As touching all the abuses last recited, haue great respect to punish one abuse, in which all our idle *Gallants* and disordered disolutes do desire to swim, vntill themselues, and their whole *estate* do sinke, in the *Slymie dregs* of *Swinelike drunkennes*, to *drunkards* therefore haue especiall heed, you know the *Lawe* prouideth for their *punishmēt*, & were such offenders duly *presented*, *Indited*, *Fined*, & *imprisoned*, they may by such good meanes be in time haply *refined* from that *contagious euill*, their continuall amisse, beeing continually with *Iustice* punished, to the vtter sup-
pressing of such vild occasion: From whence as frō *Hels* mouth flames forth, *Ryoats*, *murthers*, *man-slaughters*, *quarrels*, *fightings*, *whoredemes*, and *presumptuous blasphemies*, all proceeding from that sinke of sin, in whose sick healths is *dronke* the bodies *Surfiting*, and the *Soules damnation*. In this, as in all the rest of the abuses specified, vse your best indeauors for the furtherance of a settled *Reformation*, according to the *Lawes establisshed*: For you must know, that *Vita & vigor Iuris, in execucione consistit*, The life and strength of the *Lawes* consisteth in the execution of them: For in vaine are iust lawes Inacted, if not iustly excuted.

And now my louing *Countrey men*, because I would that all which I haue spoken, may receiue

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a profitable remembrance. I will thus conclude, *Similes* and *Comparisons* doe best confirme our vnderstanding :and do fastest cleaue vnto the memorie; my conclusion therefore, shall consist vpon this one *Similitude*.

There was a certain man, who hauing a great account to make vnto a mightie *King*, made triall of his best Friends, that might accompany him, in that dangerous iourney, and not forsake him vntill his account were made. This man vpon his Inquisition found one friend that would go with him a great part of the way, but then forsake him. And that was his (*Riches.*) Some other Friends he found that would goe with him vntill he came in sight of the *Kings* pallace, but then they would also leaue him and beare him company no further, all these Friends were his *wife* and *children*, that would follow him to his graue. But at last, he found one Friend that would go with him into the presence of the *King*, and not forsake him, vntill he had seene his account made, and for euer beare the greatest part with him, either in woe, or happinesse, and this Friend was his *Conscience*; Deare Countrymen betwixt *God* and your *Consciences* therefore, make your peace, for he is the *King*, vnto whom all of vs must make a strickt account of all our actions done. This then considered, such would be our care, as *God* and our *King* should be obeyed, and our peace in this life, and in the world to come preferred. Vnto which eternall grace be we all in *Iesus Christ* committed.

FINIS.

